

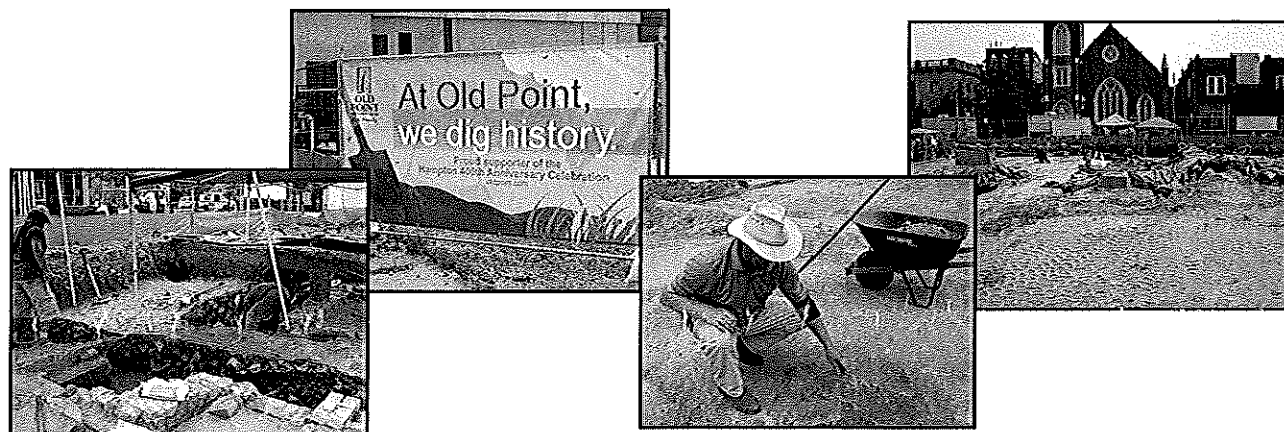
OUR MISSION

The Hampton History Museum serves to increase the awareness and understanding of the history of Hampton by maintaining an educational and research center for the collection, exhibition, interpretation, preservation and promotion of the vast historic resources of the City.

Jean Helms, Editor
757-727-0830

AN INVESTMENT IN HAMPTON'S HISTORY

An exciting archaeological excavation is helping to preserve Hampton's History. James River Institute for Archaeology has been very successful with its investigation into 'what lies beneath' the site of Old Point National Bank's new headquarters at Wine and Queen Streets.



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Hampton History Museum
120 Old Hampton Lane
Hampton, Virginia 23669

Vol. 7, Issue 2, Summer 2010

THE COMPASS ROSE

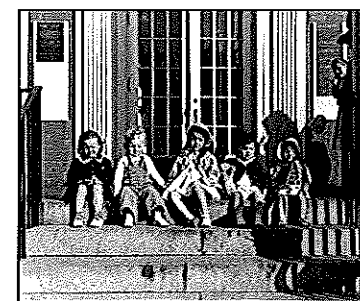
As we enter into the final months of Hampton's 400th Anniversary as the Oldest Continuous English speaking settlement in North America, staff and volunteers at the Hampton History Museum and the Hampton History Museum Association would like to say "many thanks" to and acknowledge all those including Mayor Molly Ward, City Manager Mary Bunting, the City Council, the 400th Committee, 400th Staff, and the countless others behind the scenes who have played such a large role in the city's celebration to date. Throughout this issue are included images of some of the many events that have taken place, including the return to Hampton of President Abraham Lincoln (accompanied by Mary Todd Lincoln) in February, the hugely successful Hunt for History in March, Landing Day in April at Strawberry Banks followed by the opening of the "Legacy of South King Street" exhibit at the Museum, the Kikotan Min-Conference and the Afrikan American Festival in June and the Blackbeard Festival/Anniversary of St. John's Church/City of Hampton's Anniversary (all on the same weekend in July).

The Museum is now preparing for its many exciting programs being presented in conjunction with the remaining events planned by the 400th Committee to bring enjoyment to all Hampton's citizens and visitors including Bay Days and The Native American Festival - Thunder on the Bay, the opening of a new exhibit in the Changing Gallery at the Museum, "Cheyne, Photographer: A Warm and Vital Record of a Time and Place" during September, along with very interesting Fall Port Hampton Lectures and Lunch in Time series.

Please mark your calendars with the event dates listed on page 5. We look forward to seeing all of you often and in December when President and Mrs. Lincoln return to celebrate and ring in the Holidays in Hampton.



This Just In! The H.H.M.A. has provided a new scanner for use with the Museum's collections. The new equipment allows scanning of the Cheyne Collection negatives into positive image files, meaning the resulting scan looks just like a traditional printed photograph! This new capability will revolutionize the research and documentation activities and provides the ability to better respond to requests from the public.



In the Changing Gallery
September 17, 2010 - March 15, 2011

CHEYNE, FOTOGRAPHER

A Warm and Vital Record
of a Time and Place

www.hampton400.com



From the Desk of Hampton's Historian

The Chesapeake Bay Log Canoe Maude

One sailing craft truly associated with the Chesapeake Bay is the log canoe. The Chesapeake once witnessed hundreds of these graceful vessels sailing out onto the oyster beds or racing wing on wing down the bay. Many log canoes were constructed along the shores of the Back River and Hampton river at yards like the Darling Marine Railway. This tremendous connection with Hampton's boat building and seafood industry heritage made it important to commemorate this history. The Hampton Convention and Visitors Bureau, Hampton Roads Convention Center, and

Hampton History Museum forged a partnership to preserve and present the two-log canoe, Maude.

The Maude was constructed prior to World War II by the Dobbin family, who worked the Coan River on Virginia's Northern Neck. The canoe was acquired by the Hampton History Museum in the 1990s; however, the Maude was kept in storage until space could be identified for exhibition. Once the Hampton Roads Convention Center agree to exhibit the canoe, the Maude was restored by Tim Smith of Smith's Railway. This York County marine railway has built and repaired log canoes since 1842.

The Maude is a symbol of Chesapeake Bay boat building traditions that date long before the English established the town of Hampton in 1610. The Chesapeake Bay log canoe is a refined version of the Indian dug out canoe. Tidewater Indians made their canoes by setting a fire in the middle of a well-shaped pine log. As the fire created coals, the log was scraped or "dug" away, making a trough. The English colonists recognized the need to use the river highways and adapted the canoe to their own construction and propulsion methods. The colonists discovered that their edged tools made it much easier to build a canoe from more than one log. Two similar logs were squared and placed side by side. The joint became the center line and each log was shaped into the longitudinal half of the dug out. The halves were separated and hollowed out with an edge. Larger canoes used one log as the keel with as many as 12 additional logs forming the hull.

The log canoe was once the principal workboat of the bay, and was produced in abundance throughout the Tidewater region. This graceful craft gained popularity as the Chesapeake region became more populated. Pine was readily available and many settlers became skilled in producing these seaworthy craft for fishing, oystering, crabbing, or general transportation. The development of the inexpensive gasoline engine ended the waterman's dependence on wind power. While many log canoes were modified for engines, new designs, like the deadrise, proved more efficient as workboats.

Racing extended the extended life of many a log canoe and they became famous as race boats. The Hampton Yacht Club sponsored races from the 1880s until World War II. Races are still held throughout the Tidewater region, but only a few boats still survive for this purpose. Others were abandoned in a marsh or along a quiet creek's shoreline. Occasionally, you can see remnants of these sleek, graceful hulls at low tide, a memory of the thousands of log canoes that once worked the bay.

Tax deductible donations for
memorials and honorariums may be mailed to:

The Hampton History Museum Association (HHMA)
at P. O. Box 646, Hampton, VA 23669-0646.

A Gift of your time would be a huge boon to both
the HHMA and the Museum.

Join our group of volunteers and assist the Gift Shop.

For more information call Vivian Tanzer, Gift Shop Manager,
at 757-727-0830 or 757-727-6824.

If you would like to assist as Museum Docent
or behind the scenes in some other capacity,
contact Winette Jeffrey, Museum Educator at 757-727-6838.

Your obedient servant, John V. Quarstein
(757) 879-3420



400th Anniversary Postmarks!

These first day issue postmarks
were made available to the
numerous Hamptonians and visitors
who participated in
Hampton's celebratory weekend!



Registrar's Update

Beth Austin, Registrar



Daily progress is being made on the huge Collection Management Initiative, designed to improve the Museum's documentation and care of its collection. To date, we have entered 10,000 individual objects have all been cleaned, re-housed into archivally safe boxes and folders, labeled with identifying catalog numbers, scanned or photographed, given a thorough description including measurements and condition report, and cross-indexed to allow for sophisticated research queries by subject, keyword, historical event, person, date, etc. All of these objects now have been fully documented and are accessible for researchers and staff.

Spotlight on Collection Progress: Most recently, the collection staff's attention has turned to what we affectionately call "FICs." As we begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel in our project to upgrade the museum's old paper receipts to an electronic format, we are left with a quite substantial amount of FIC objects, or "Found in Collection" objects, which are materials that cannot be linked immediately to any existing documentation. These objects might be items donated long ago but never recorded, objects whose identifying labels have been lost, and so on.

These objects cannot be added yet to the museum's permanent collection, since we must try to learn more about them first. Many have already been re-matched with existing records after some investigations, and many more "mysteries" have been solved by interviewing staff members and volunteers or doing some detective work. The items that we have not yet been able to identify are being added to a special "FIC" section of our regular database, and these objects are as fully documented and accessible as permanent collection objects.

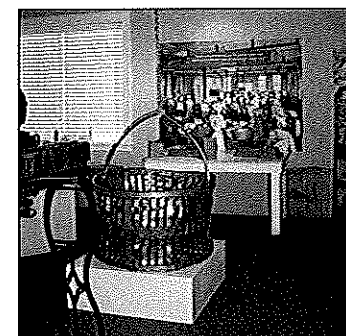
(To help shed some light on the needs of the collection and the documentation process, a "Spotlight on Collection Progress" will regularly highlight a current piece of the collections puzzle as part of future Registrar's Updates.)

Update on the Cheyne Collection: We have completed work on the 2,533 glass plate negatives in the collection, and the cataloging, re-housing, and freezing of the 50,000 cellulose acetate ("gel") negatives is well underway! We are delighted to have a "dream team" of volunteers: Rosa Crump, Sally Lazorchak and Ron Ponzar are diving in to make saving the Cheyne Collection a reality. Negatives are being cataloged, wrapped in photograph-safe archival tissue and boxes, and double-bagged in zip-lock bags before being placed in the freezer. Significantly, we have also completed a preliminary list of all names and families associated with the contents of the Cheyne Collection - over 14,000 entries! This list will allow us to effectively respond to research questions and will facilitate the in-depth cataloging of the collection. (Curious about whether your Aunt Susie's bridal portrait or your childhood family photos might be part of the museum's collection? Give me a call and I'll run a search for you!)

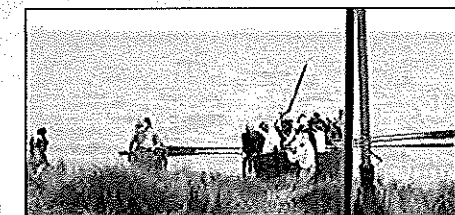
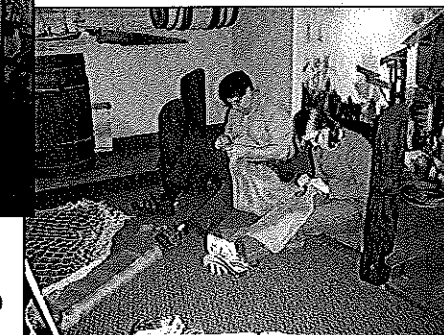
We are always looking for volunteers! Because of budget cutbacks, we expect work on the collection to slow depending on available funding for part-time staff. Please help us keep the pace of progress! If you would like to volunteer, please contact me using the phone number or email address below. All ages and levels of computer proficiency are welcome, and we will provide training. Working with the collection is fun and rewarding, and we hope you will join us.

baustin@hampton.gov

(757) 727-6845



"The Legacy of
South King Street"
exhibit closed August 15, 2010



Landing Day on
the shores of
Strawberry Banks,
celebrated in
late April.





EDUCATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS NEWS

Winette Sparkman Jeffery

There's a saying in sports about "March Madness", but the Hampton History Museum was involved with "March, April, May Madness" this Spring-- making our own history with student attendance coming to 3,262!!!

Yes, the most students in the Hampton History Museum's existence recently toured our galleries! We have seen smiling faces from Old Wythe to Wythe's Creek! We have also managed to take students to sites that are endearing to all Americans such as our beloved Emancipation Oak and Fort Monroe. Our good neighbor, St. John's Church, also played a role that only it can provide: visits to Hampton's oldest building. This all adds up to celebrating our city's 400th birthday in a grand way, and it's not over yet!

Thanks to the Education Committee of the 2010 Commission, our City Council, and our Museum staff, all of the 5th graders and graduating Seniors of Hampton City Schools have come through our doors this spring. Alma Dietz, Social Studies Coordinator of HCS and Winette Jeffery of HHM coordinated with our Historian John Quarstein and the Casemate Museum to plan these exciting excursions that exemplify what we can do for our children when the community helps pave the way.

5th Graders experienced true SOL Reviews of Social Studies strands right before their tests with their visits to the museum and St. John's. The Seniors took home a day to remember for a lifetime as they toured the museum, St. John's, the Emancipation Oak, and Fort Monroe's Casemate and grounds. With city leaders participating as well, we wrapped up the 21 days of tours on May 24th.

Reviews from teachers, parents, and the community have been wonderful and we are pleased to thank our volunteer docent staff: Marie Smith, Maria Hudgins, Ruthann Kellum, Robbi Nadeau, Ann Davis, Pat Taylor, Joyce Weeks, Andrea Wallace, Amanda Wallace, and Neal Lineberry. Also, many thanks to the 2010 Education Committee and chair, Carla Mingee.

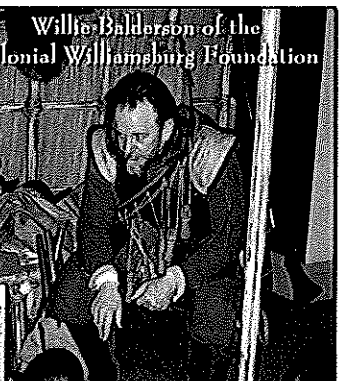
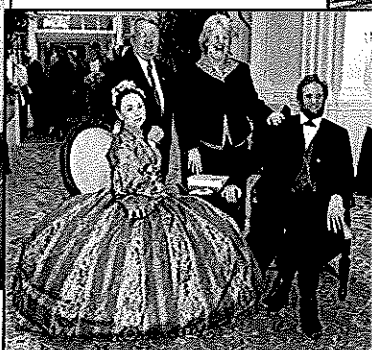
Hampton native and Kecoughtan High alumni, Nicole Hargett, was embraced by Hampton History Museum as an invaluable Intern from Lynchburg College this summer! We welcomed Nicole as she added her touch to the daily aspects of museum happenings. She assisted with the research of "Hampton's First Families" with Winette Jeffery as well as projects identified by other staff members.

Our fall schedule shall continue with other grade levels slated for visits. Come join us as a volunteer or book your family or group for a special tour as well!

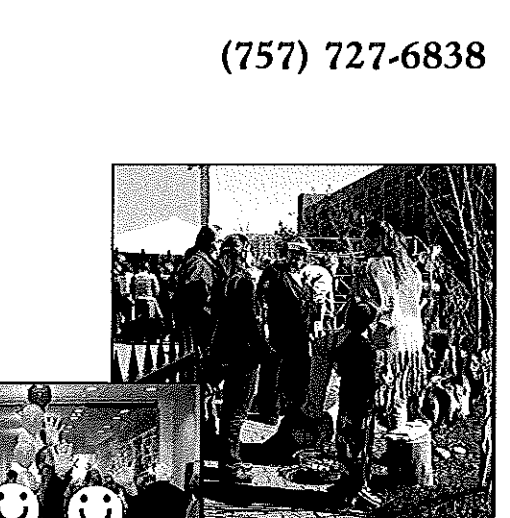
wjeffery@hampton.gov



Visiting Hampton in late February were Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln, portrayed by Michael Krebs and Debra Ann Miller, seen below with Jim and Liz Wilson.



Anas Todkill (who explored the Chesapeake Bay with John Smith) sharing tales with Hunt visitors.



Some of the many guests to the Museum during Hunt for History in March.

(757) 727-6838

(757) 727-6875

Curator's Attic

Michael Cobb, Curator

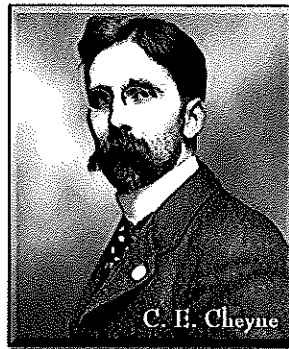
mcobb@hampton.gov

Hampton's Master Photographers

"The job of the portrait photographer is to paint with light to render the most complimentary result, but without losing the individual personality of the subject."

Happy Cheyne

In 1984, from the collection of prints and negatives of photographers C. Ethelbert Cheyne and W. E. "Happy" Cheyne, given to the city Hampton by businessman John Ishon, a major exhibition was held at City Hall. This proved to be a renaissance for history in the city, as thousands visited the exhibit and hundreds of Cheyne prints were purchased. The present building housing the Hampton History Museum was a direct result of the Cheyne exhibit. The Cheyne materials still form the heart, and the most notable and beloved portion, of the Museum's collections.



Hampton secured his heart when he visited a musician friend, and in return, for thirty-four years, Cheyne captured the heart of Hampton for future generations. His training in oil portraiture is evident in the subtle lighting of his photos, and in the way he managed to catch his subject's personalities in each snapshot. Always posed calmly and in a stately fashion, his views of buildings and streets, are also extremely insightful and vivid.

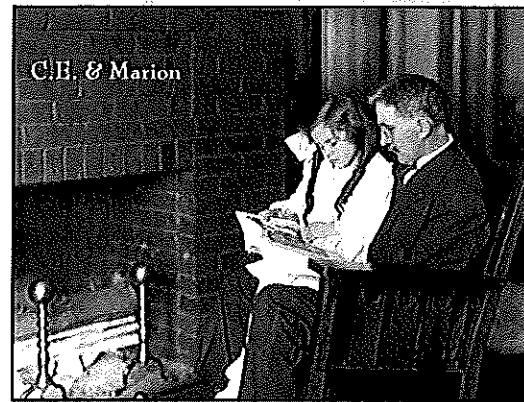
Cheyne married Emily Couch, a Hampton school teacher, and in 1896 their son William Ethelbert was born. Everyone knew him as "Happy." In 1928 "Happy" left his position as a math teacher at Hampton High School, upon his father's request to join the business, guaranteeing Hampton an extension of the "art of Cheyne" for another generation. He proved that the talent had been passed from father to son. "Happy" retired in the 1960s, passing on in 1976. His estate was left to his beloved alma mater, the Virginia Military Institute, and he was buried with a game football in his casket.

With the eye of an artist and the technology of the infant medium of photography, C. Ethelbert Cheyne came to Hampton in 1894. Cheyne's Irish roots were in Brampton, Canada, where he was born in 1869. The talented portrait painter and professional musician received his training in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he apprenticed himself to a leading photographer while playing the flute in an orchestra to pay the bills.

The Cheynes together captured the personality of Hampton's people and places. These are not images frozen in time on glass and gel, they are a warm and vital record of a time and place. The Museum is proud to display the best work of the Cheynes in its special exhibit, and we invite you to share this legacy with us by visiting the Museum's second floor. A picture is still worth a thousand words.



Emily



C.H. & Marion



Happy

ECHOES of HAMPTON

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HAMPTON HISTORY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

Summer 2010

Volume 13

Issue 2

PLEASE NOTE: Your assistance is requested in passing the following information on to members of any of the Reunion Committees of the classes outlined, or providing Mr. Allsbrook with the information at one of the contact numbers below or by e-mail to his attention at HHMA@Hampton.gov.

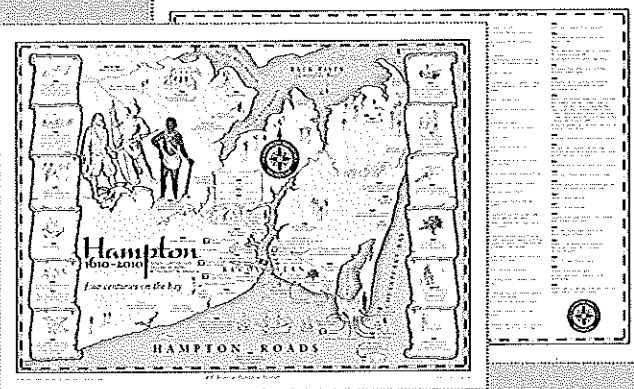
To all graduated classes from Hampton, Phenix, Pembroke, Phoebus, Bethel, and Kecoughtan public high schools:

In the Winter 2010 issue we shared news of a new fund raiser "The High School Wall of Fame", now named "The High School Roll of Honor", to honor the many classes of Hampton City Schools both past and present. The Roll of Honor is now installed in the entry of the Hampton History Museum, awaiting the addition of many other graduated classes from the City of Hampton. To this end, we are requesting your assistance in informing your former high school classmates of our efforts to supply this information to all classes of the seven high schools that have been an important part of Hampton's History.

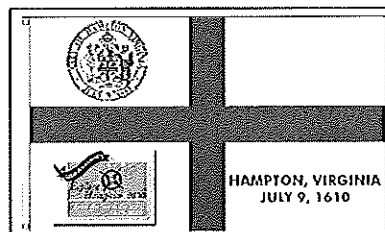
Some donations have already been received and this effort will continue for a period of three years. The Hampton History Museum Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and administrator of this fund. For those classes wishing to participate, please send your donation to:

Hampton History Museum Association
Attention: Robert Allsbrook, Treasurer
P. O. Box 646
Hampton, Virginia 23669-0646

Introducing another of the products created specifically to commemorate the 400th Anniversary of Hampton. The map is printed front and back, and is suitable for framing.



Fly Hampton City Flags!!
The Shop stocks the flag in 3' x 5', 16" x 18" garden flags and mini hand-held flags or lapel pins.



Check out the shop on Facebook.com.
Search Hampton History Museum Gift Shop.

THE HAMPTON HISTORY MUSEUM GIFT SHOP is open for your shopping pleasure and convenience,
Monday through Friday, 10 am to 5 pm; Saturday 11 am to 3 pm.

Questions or to place an order: call 757-727-6824. We will be happy to mail orders for you.

New show merchandise is starting to arrive. Appropriate Gifts for any Occasion!

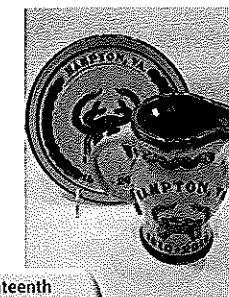
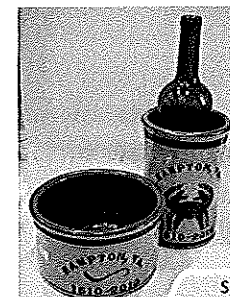
If you are interested in being a shop volunteer, please call Thalia Lawrence, Volunteer Trainer, 757-723-5180, or Vivian Tanzer, Gift Shop Manager at 757-727-0830.

Hampton History Museum Association • P.O. Box 646 • Hampton, Virginia 23669-0646



Be sure to visit the Hampton History Museum Gift Shop when shopping for gifts. A wide variety of items are stocked for the 'perfect' gift. Books written by local authors and others about Hampton history are always available.

Please feel free to stop in and browse and remember that during Museum hours Monday thru Sunday you may call the shop (757-727-6824) to place your order with our staff and we will be happy to wrap and ship the order for you. VISA and Mastercard are accepted. A few of the special 400th Anniversary items are shown here:



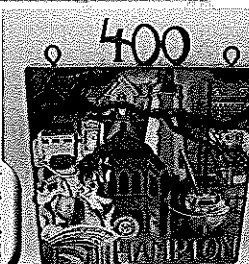
Seventeenth Century Styled Hand Thrown Pottery. Includes Crab bean pot, butter dish, plate, pitcher, bowl, two sizes of mug & wine bottle holder.



The Kikotan Bear, key fobs, magnets and assorted tree ornaments are also available.



One of the four Nancy Thomas plaques available in the shop, or let us special order the one you are looking for!



UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM SEPTEMBER

- 10, 11, 12 BAY DAYS
- 13 Port Hampton Lecture, "James Barron: Unearthing the Revolutionary War Hero's Urban Hampton Plantation" Presented by archaeologists from the James River Institute of Archaeology, 7 PM
- 15 Lunch in Time, Lecture by amateur historian Robert C. Emerson presenting "The Yorktown Halfway House". 12 Noon to 1 PM
- 17 New Changing Exhibit: "Cheyne, Photographer", featuring approximately 100 of the images taken by C. E. and 'Happy' Cheyne.
- 17, 18 400th Event: Native American Festival Thunder On The Bay, at Buckroe Beach Park

OCTOBER

- 4 Port Hampton Lecture, "Growing Up in Crabtown: Three Businessmen Look Back", featuring three local businessmen, Tommy Thompson, Whiting Chisman and Johnny Ishon talking about growing up in Hampton, 7 PM
- 20 Lunch in Time, Lecture by our Curator, Michael Cobb, "Vintage Hampton Images: Seldom Scene", 12 Noon to 1 PM

NOVEMBER

- 1 Port Hampton Lecture, "The Wonder of the Age: The Monitor, The Scourge of Hampton Roads", presented by Anna Holloway, Chief Curator, Mariners' Museum 7 PM
- 17 Lunch in Time, Lecture by Ann Mennell presenting "Girard Chambers Remembrances", 12 Noon to 1PM

DECEMBER

- 3 First Light Celebration, time to be announced
- 4 Tea with the Lincolns, time to be announced
- 6 Port Hampton Lecture, "Abraham and Mary Lincoln Visit Hampton" with History Channel and Lincoln Museum actors, Debra Ann Miller and Michael Krebs, portraying the couple.
- 15 Lunch in Time, CNU American Studies professor Sean Heuvel will present on his recent Acadia book, "Remembering Virginia's Confederates", 12 Noon
Port Hampton Lectures, free to members,
Fee to non-members of \$3.00 per event unless noted.
Lunch in Time, admission free